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Hearings Scheduled for Cassis Care and Competitiveness Package

Cassis leads charge to eliminate tax on employee health care

LANSING – A schedule of public hearings for the five-bill Cassis Care and Competitiveness Package was announced today. The legislation would eliminate health care from the Single Business Tax (SBT) base during a five-year period.

David Littman, chief economist for Comerica Bank said: “It is an urgent matter for the sake of Michigan’s business climate and employment prospects that the effective SBT rate be lowered. The health insurance cost exemption is one way of improving incentives for employment and ultimately revenue growth.”

The legislation will help create jobs and reduce the need for layoffs; provide and maintain health benefits for Michigan workers; and grow the state’s economy.

“Our Governor has said losing manufacturing jobs is a problem that we cannot wait for others to address. I agree with her and look forward to her support in approving this package in a timely manner,” said Cassis, R- Novi.

The hearing dates are:

- September 24th- 1:00 p.m., Room 100, Farnum Bldg., Lansing
- September 29th- 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m., Providence Park, Novi
- October 6th- 10:00 a.m. – 2 p.m., Holiday Inn, 501 Saginaw Street, Bay City
- October 13th- 10:00 a.m. – 2 p.m., Room 138, Devos Center, Grand Valley State University, 401 W. Fulton, Grand Rapids

“Removing the tax on health care benefits will allow many businesses that currently are unable to adequately invest in health care the incentive to do so,” said Cassis. “Tax policy should remove the barriers to increased private health care coverage rather than increased government programs.”

Supporters of the Cassis Care and Competitiveness Package include:

Michigan Chamber of Commerce
Michigan Manufacturers Association
National Federation of Independent Businesses
Small Business Association of Michigan
Yale Tool and Die
DaimlerChrysler
General Motors
Ford Motor Company
Michigan Restaurant Association
Michigan Retailers Association
Michigan Grocers Association
Michigan Road Builders Association
Detroit Regional Chamber of Commerce
Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce
SEMCO Energy
Michigan Electric Cooperatives Association
Novi Chamber of Commerce
Henry Ford Health System
Providence Hospital/Ascension Health
Michigan Soft Drink Association
Michigan Press Association